

REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

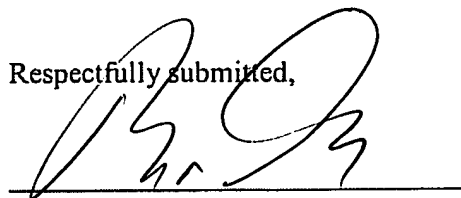
In response to the Examiners objection to claims 3 through 7, claim 3 has been amended to delete "electrical spectral data" and refer to the "incident optical signal." As such, antecedent basis provided in claim 1, where a corresponding amendment has been made to refer to "an incident optical signal" rather than "the incident optical signal." As such it is believed that claims 3 through 7 are allowable.

With respect to the objection raised under 35 USC 101, claims 14 and 26 have been amended to recite that an output is provided to indicate the quality of data transmission. Thus, in claim 14, the amendment recites the additional step of providing an output representative at the parameter to indicate a quality of data transmission. In claim 26, the method now recites the step of providing an output representative of the quality to indicate a quality of data transmission. It is noted that the Examiner has indicated that the recitation of the indication in claim 23 overcomes the 35 USC 101 objection. Therefore, it is believed that similar amendments to claims 14 and 26 satisfy the requirement for a tangible result.

As each of the independent claims directed to the method now recite the provision of an indication, it is believed that the claims dependent thereon also satisfy the requirements under 35 USC 101 and are in condition for allowance.

Further action to allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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